

November 23, 1956

Mrs. Ed Bushing
Stanwood, Iowa

Dear Mrs. Bushing:

Mrs. Stuff has referred your letter of November 3 to me. I might say that all letters pertaining to matters relative to the space rented for the Le Claire library station should come to us directly; it will save time in the long run, for all matters of business pertaining to any part of the library must come to the attention of the librarian and the board.

I am very sorry that we did not consult you before we redecorated and changed the wiring in the building. However, the day when we could take the whole staff down there to do the job suddenly came, and there just wasn't time for letters to get back and forth. As for the changes in the wiring which we did being responsible for the trouble you had recently, it just isn't so. We did not add any load in the building - as a matter of fact, we cut the load, for we put in fluorescent lights where incandescent had been used previously, and you know that less actual electricity is used with fluorescent than incandescent lights. No additional fixtures were put in. In addition to that we put in proper conduit where previously only open wires had been used making the job much safer than it had been. The men who did the rewiring after the trouble said that the old wiring was just plain worn out - the difficulty did not come from the new that we had put in.

Relative to our putting in another meter I can say nothing until taking up the matter with the library board which meets on Wednesday evening, November 26. I have consulted with Iowa-Illinois Gas & Electric Co. to find out why suddenly that building was declared commercial. It is because the library is considered a business, although we are open only two days a week while the second floor is in constant use. It seems, however, that the town fathers of Le Claire are responsible for the change in rates. I don't blame the Neilsens for objecting to the increase in the rate. They certainly should have residential rates in their home.

I shall take up your letter with the board at the next meeting, and write you again to tell you their decision.

Yours very truly,

Elizabeth B. Hage
Librarian